



The Sons of the Republic of Texas



The Sherman Sentinel

DECEMBER
2024

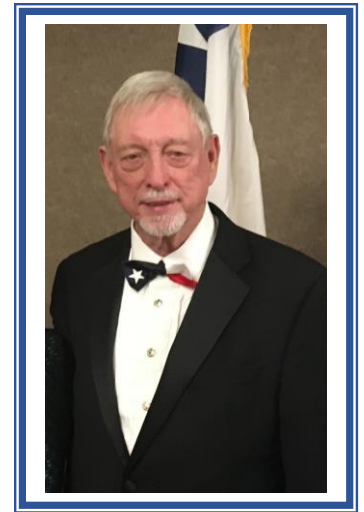
SIDNEY SHERMAN CHAPTER, NO. 2 – GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

December 1836

As December 1836 approached the New Republic of Texas was just a few months old. President Sam Houston had been installed as President on October 22, 1836. The Texas Congress began meeting at the site of the Rice Hotel, October 1836 and adjourned on December 22, 1836.

On December 19, 1836 the Texas Congress unilaterally set the boundaries of the Republic. It declared the Rio Grande to be the southern boundary, even though Mexico had refused to recognize Texas Independence. In December 1836, the Texas Congress authorized a military force of 3,587 men and a battalion of 280 mounted rifleman.



The first Christmas in Texas was celebrated on 1528 on the Texas Coast by Cabeza de Vaca. From the time of the Spanish Conquistadors to the reign of the cowboys, Texas has for most of its history been comprised of vast stretches of unincorporated wilderness. Most of the communities around the state were rural and did not have access to trade routes and or supplies.

Christmas in Texas usually meant holiday meals of venison, rabbit, squirrel, turkeys and other wild game. Cornmeal dumplings, preserved summer vegetables, wassail and eggnog spiked with whiskey were other Christmas favorites. Most gifts were homemade and practical. Christmas was not complete without music played late into the night. Traditional instruments include fiddles and mouth organs might be used to accompany carols and dances.

Decorations were usually fresh greenery and pinecones along with strung popcorn or cranberries. The Christmas Story from the Book of Luke was read in front of the fireplace with only light from candles or oil lamps. Many of you have Christmas family traditions like these that are passed on from generation to generation. We so deeply share the bonds of being descended from these pioneer men and women. It is the tie that binds us all together.

**STEPHEN F. AUSTIN – THE FATHER OF TEXAS
PASSED AWAY ON DECEMBER 27, 1836**

The end of 2024 is almost upon us and all of us are busy preparing for Christmas and the coming New Year. Our Fourth Annual Christmas Party was hosted as usual by Jim Nonus at his home on December 10th. It was a wonderful party as we gathered and enjoyed a little Christmas cheer and camaraderie. Thank you, Jim, for all your efforts as we continue our tradition of having a Christmas Party.

Once again, we rode in the Texas City Christmas Parade. Special thanks to Larry and George Armstrong for the float and lighted decorations and to Robert Schniriger for pulling the trailer. In addition, our Parade Crew, Robert Gindratt, Mike Mitchell, J. B. Kline and Albert Seguin Gonzales were there to ride on the float and represent the chapter.

Early this month at the SRT Quarterly meeting, nominations for Knights of the Order of San Jacinto were held by the SRT Executive Board. This is the highest honor bestowed by The Sons of the Republic of Texas. This elite organization was established in 1843 by General Sam Houston. It was my honor and privilege to be nominated by the SRT Executive Board for this honor. There will be two more votes held for approval, one by the Knights of the Order of San Jacinto and the other by the SRT Membership at the Annual Convention in March, 2025.

I want to thank Ron Schoolcraft for nominating me and to our Chapter for endorsing me and signing the letter of recommendation. I know several people also wrote letters on my behalf. I have been deeply touched and am grateful for all the support that I have received for this nomination. I am honored to work with such a dedicated group of men who work so diligently to

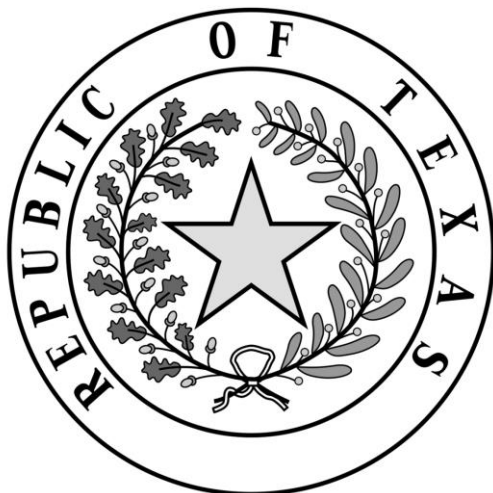
perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved and maintained the Independence of Texas.



I wish each of you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

God Bless Texas

*Carl V. Hill,
President*



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Sidney Sherman Chapter November Meeting



Trisha Pollard, Speaker

President Hill thanked those members who participated in this past month's activities. We had two teams at the Chili Cook Off in October. Robert Schnuriger and Robert Gindratt had the Twin Sister's Chili Team and Carl Hill – the All Star Chili Team.

President Hill announced that our Fourth Annual Christmas Party will be held at Jim Nonus' home on December 10th. We will also have a float in the Texas City Christmas Parade. Robert Schnuriger reported that the SRT is sponsoring a raffle to be drawn at the Annual Meeting for a Colt 44 pistol in a presentation case.

President Hill proposed that Cindy Schnuriger be approved for an Honorary Member of the Chapter. The list of nominated officers for 2025 was presented and were approved by acclamation:

President – Robert Schnuriger
 1st Vice President – Tim Rainey
 2nd Vice President – Robert Gindratt
 Secretary/Treasurer – Clark Wright
 Registrar – Steve Nicol
 Sgt at Arms – Larry Armstrong

Trisha Pollard presented a very informative and inspiring program on the life of Sam Houston. She discussed various character traits that made Sam Houston a great man as she reviewed his life. Some of the character traits were Honesty, Loyalty, Diplomacy, Integrity, Courage and Family among others.

Trisha discussed the stages of his life, becoming a teacher, then wars with the Indians, along with Andrew Jackson, in which he almost lost his life. She traversed his life as a Senator, the only one to serve from 2 different States, Tennessee and Texas, in addition to being Governor of both. Unfortunately, he had a very short marriage and escaped to the Cherokee Nation, and then to Texas and the Revolution. Trisha emphasized the effect Margaret Lee had which brought Sam to sobriety for the rest of his life.





President Hill presented Certificates of Appreciation to the following Sidney Sherman Chapter, No. 2 Executive Committee – Ron Schoolcraft, Past President; Larry Armstrong, Sgt at Arms; Steve Nicol, Registrar; Clark Wright, Secretary; Robert Gindratt, 2nd Vice President and Robert Schnuriger, 1st Vice President.



In addition, President Hill also presented Certificates of Appreciation to Outstanding members of the Chapter – Mike Mitchell, J. B. Kline, George Armstrong and Steve Manis.





January Meeting



Fly Your Texas Flag

The January, 2025 meeting will be January 18th, 2025 at Kelley's Country Cookin Restaurant, La Marque. We will gather at 5:30 p.m. with the meeting starting at 6:00 p.m. Our speaker will be Robert Revilla, who portrays Santa Anna.

In addition, our January meeting will be the Installation of our new Officers.

LAMAR DAY

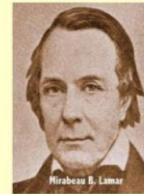
January 26, 2025

JOIN US IN HONORING MIRABEAU B. LAMAR,
SECOND PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
TEXAS, EXCEPTIONAL SCHOLAR AND
STATESMAN, AND EARLY RESIDENT OF
RICHMOND AND FT BEND COUNTY.

A GRAVESIDE CEREMONY WILL BEGIN AT 10:30AM,
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26TH, AT MORTON
CEMETERY IN RICHMOND.

COME SHOW YOUR TEXAS PRIDE IN ONE OF OUR
OWN,

MIRABEAU B. LAMAR.



Dues are Due

Gentlemen,

Please let your Chapters know the dues for 2025 are in process and will be later this year. The mailed copy may not get to them before the New Year.

There are two options they can pay on the website at the store, or they can wait for the hard copy of the dues notice by mail. We have extended to date.

Chapters your Annual Reports are still dues January 31, 2025, with a copy of your December bank statement.

Merry Christmas,

Janet Knox

Office Manager

1717 8th St., Suite 12

Bay City, TX 77414

979-245-6644

aa-srt@son-rep-texas.net



**Left – Email from
Janet Knox regarding
Dues Payments**

Fourth Annual Christmas Party

Champagne, shrimp, tamales and quesadillas were the highlight of the recent Christmas party hosted by Jim Nonus at his residence for the Sidney Sherman Chapter, No. 2. It was a wonderful gathering with other historical groups in attendance – the Lafitte Society and the Sidney Sherman and San Jacinto Chapter, DRT members.



Carl Hill presented to Jim Nonus a Certificate of Appreciation and a Poinsettia. This is the Fourth Christmas Party Jim has hosted.

HONORARY MEMBER – CINDY SCHNURIGER



Sidney Sherman Chapter No. 2 is honored to present an Honorary Membership to Cindy Schnuriger. Carl Hill assisted by Ron Schoolcraft presented the Honorary Membership to Cindy Schnuriger in recognition of her Outstanding Service to the State of Texas and the Preservation of Texas History.

Over the past few years, Cindy has supported the Chapter in a variety of ways. She made and donated the Wreath that the Chapter placed during the Dawn at Alamo services. In addition, she has worked diligently to assist with organizing the Sidney Sherman Birthday Dinners and has donated the table and other decorations. During the Fourth of July parade she works to decorate the float and drives the trailer.

Cindy recently became a member of the Sidney Sherman Chapter, No 1, DRT. Thank you, Cindy, for all your efforts on behalf of the Sidney Sherman Chapter, SRT. We are proud to have you as an Honorary Member.





Carl Hill assisted by Ron Schoolcraft presented to the Chapter’s Honorary Members a poinsettia and thanked them on behalf of the Chapter for all their efforts to assist the chapter. **Left Picture** – Christie Erickson, Ron Schoolcraft and Carl Hill. **Center Picture** – Mike Mitchell who accepted the Poinsettia on behalf of his wife Carol. **Right Picture** – Eron Tynes, Ron Schoolcraft and Carl Hill.



DRT Members
Sidney Sherman Chapter - Cora Wright, Cindy Schnuriger and Helen Moody,
San Jacinto Chapter - Eron Tynes and Beth Fisher

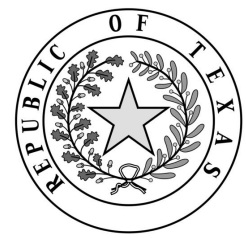
Above Picture – Clark Wright, Mike Mitchell, J.B. Kline, Larry Armstrong, Jim Nonus, Albert Seguin, Robert Schnuriger, Carl Hill, Robert Gindratt, George Armstrong and Ron Schoolcraft.



Right Picture – Ron Schoolcraft, Robert Schnuriger, Michael Carnes, Oliver Carnes, Carl Hill, George and Larry Armstrong.



KEEPING TEXAS HISTORY ALIVE



Texas City
EST. 1822

Parks, Rec. & Tourism
DEPARTMENT
CITY OF TEXAS CITY

A TEXAS CHRISTMAS PARADE

**THURSDAY
DECEMBER 5
PARADE STARTS AT 5:30PM**

Categories:

Best of Theme:	\$500
Mayor's Choice:	\$400
Church Entry:	\$300
Band:	\$300
Business:	\$300
Individual:	\$300

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR AWARDS

Safety is a top priority during the parade. For this reason:
THERE WILL BE NO CANDY ALLOWED AT THIS YEAR'S PARADE.

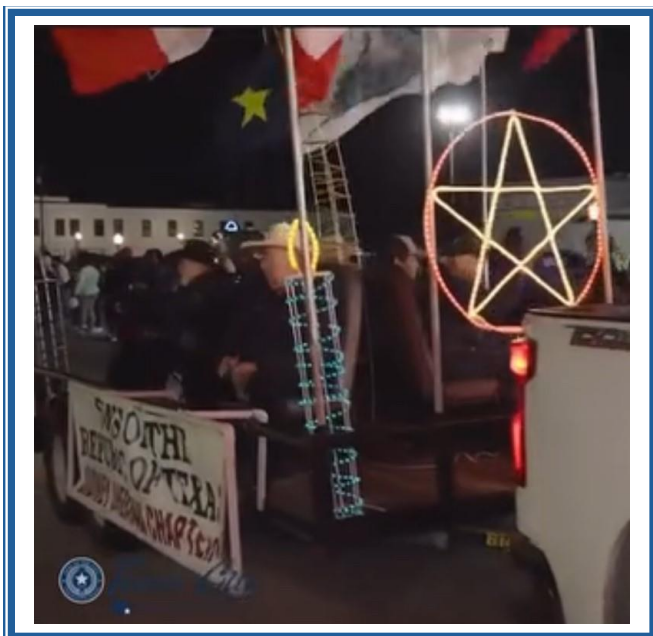
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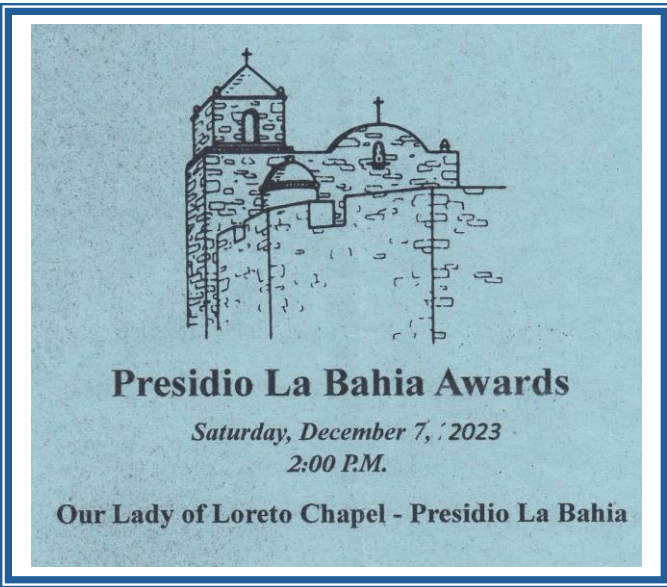


First Row – Mike Mitchell, Robert Schnuriger, Larry and George Armstrong.
Second Row – Albert Seguin, Carl Hill, Eron Tvnes and Robert Gindratt.



Standing – Robert Schnuriger with Robert Gindratt and Albert Seguin on Float. **Seated** – Larry and George Armstrong, Carl Hill and Mike Mitchell.





**Dennis Giuffre, KSJ,
 Program Chairman**



Robert Schnuriger, Carl Hill and Robyn Davis



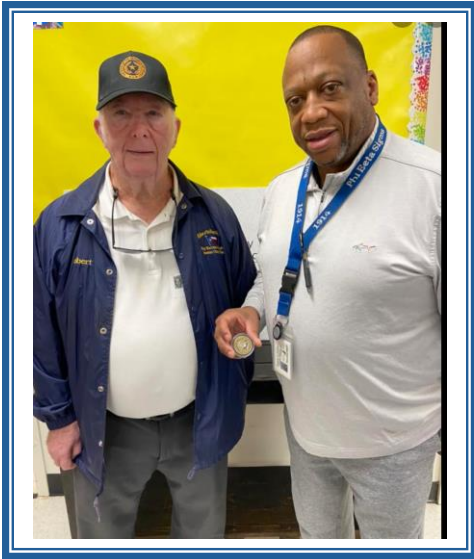
PROGRAM	
Saturday December 7, 2024 2:00 P.M.	
Honor Guard	Knights of the Order of San Jacinto Joe R. Davidson, KSJ- Knight Commander
Remembrance	Randy Pollard, KSJ-1 st Deputy Knight Commander
Invocation	Dennis Giuffré, KSJ Knight Chaplain
Presiding	Dennis Giuffré, KSJ, Program Chairman
Greeting	Scott McMahon Director, Presidio La Bahía
Presentation of Award:	Devin C. Lindsey, KSJ, President General
Acceptance and Response	1 st Place Book Award - <i>The Lost War for Texas: Mexican Rebels, American Berrites, and the Texas Revolution of 1811</i> By: James Aalan Bernsen
	2 nd Place Book Award - <i>Indigenous Autonomy at La Junta de los Rios: Trader, Allies and Migrants on New Spain's Northern Frontier</i> By: Fr. Robert Wright
	3 rd Place Book Award - <i>Beneath Sacred Ground: The Mission San Antonio de Valero Burial Records</i> By: Art Martínez De Vara
Benediction	Dennis Giuffré, KSJ, Knight Chaplain



PROMOTING TEXAS HISTORY



Robert Gindratt, Frank Brown and Albert Gonzales.



Mr. Brown, Principal, Burnet Elementary was presented with the David G. Burnet Commemorative Challenge Coin as a Token of Appreciation for the school’s participation in the David G. Burnet & Sidney Sherman Ceremony held in mid-October.

Mr. Burnet served as Interim President of the New Republic of Texas from March 17, 1836 until October 22, 1836. The Republic of Texas Presidential Challenge Series is available thru the Lone Star Chapter.

Left Picture – Robert Gindratt and Frank Brown.



San Jacinto Chapter Christmas Open House

Left Picture – Gwen Koch, President, San Jacinto Chapter, DRT presented a check for over \$1100.00 to Randy Pollard, Past President General, SRT for their portion of the proceeds from the Chili Cook Off. These proceeds will benefit the SRT Scholarship Fund.

Right Picture – Eron Tynes and Carl Hill



ANNUAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2025

January 18, 2025

Chapter Meeting
Robert Revilla
As Santa Anna

JANUARY 26, 2025

MIRABEAU B. LAMAR DAY
Father of Texas Education

February 18, 2025

Chapter Meeting - TBD

FEBRUARY 19, 2025

TEXAS STATEHOOD DAY

MARCH 2, 2025

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY

MARCH 6, 2025

ALAMO HEROES DAY

MARCH 27, 2025

GOLIAD HEROES DAY

March 28-30, 2025

SRT Annual Convention
College Station, Tx



Sidney Sherman Chapter Executive Committee

President: Carl V. Hill, Jr.
easygoal1@hotmail.com

Secretary: Clark Wright
cpwright2@verizon.net

First Vice President: Robert Schnuriger
rschnuriger@gmail.com

Registrar: Steve Nicol
stevenicol48@yahoo.com

Second Vice President: Robert Gindratt
rgindratt@comcast.net

Sergeant-at-Arms: Larry Armstrong
8325948259@vzwpix.com

Treasurer: Jess Colwell
machinegunsales@msn.com

Chaplain: Robert Schnuriger
rschnuriger@gmail.com



Past President: Ron Schoolcraft
rettcpdcaptrws@aol.com



**Sons of the Republic of
Texas – National Office**

www.srttexas.org



**Sidney Sherman
Chapter, No. 2**

www.ss2srt.org

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Bay City, Texas 77414

To contact Janet by email, go to the SRT Website,
then Contacts and click on the email link.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please submit newsletter articles
by the **First of each month** to
Carl Hill, President

Easygoal1@hotmail.com



*God Bless
Texas*